

Tuesday, October 21 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Lee Johnson
725 Bixel Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

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Sincerely,

Philip J. Wickey
5220 E. Canton St. Long Beach, Ca.
Long Beach, CA 90815

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Sincerely,

George LaMonica
144 main st, unit 8
Norwalk, CT 06851

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Sincerely,

Meyer Alpert
80 Avondale Road, Yonkers, N.Y.
Yonkers, NY 10710

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Jim Martin
16235 SW 138 PLACE
Miami, FL 33177

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Ray Chermak
600 Lewis Ave
Woodland, CA 95695

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William G. Sarris II, J.D.
601 White Plains Road
Trumbull, CT 06611

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Paul T. Rudzinski
10 churchill sq, niskayuna
Schenectady, NY 12309

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Linda H. Bell
213 Pocono Lane
Cary, NC 27513

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Margarett Blanton
499 arrowwood
Trinidad, TX 75163

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Eric Rice
17 Rickel Road
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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Robert Schwer
109 Snowden Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

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Antal Juhasz
9710 Caney Creek Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78245

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Robert L. Hemus
335 Indian Creek Road
Happy Camp, CA 96039

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Steven Cherry
1409 Lawrence Ave
Springdale, AR 72764

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Steve Bryan
5505 Brookview Av
Minneapolis, MN 55424

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Nat Saenz
2201 rouchelle lane
West Richland, WA 99353

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John W. Leonard
4749 Parkman Ct.
Annandale, VA 22003

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86 Austin Street #208
Worcester, MA 01609

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The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Steven P. Alpert
17 Meadowbrook Lane (Suffern, NY)
Suffern, NY 10901

Tuesday, October 21 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Tom Renkey
1125 N Randolph St Apt 20
Arlington, VA 22201

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Wayne Fortner
21205 107th ave se
Snohomish, WA 98296

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Krystof Litynski
6151 Ridgeview Dr
Muskegon, MI 49441

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Rob Johnson
4656 cr 139
Mc Comb, OH 45858

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John Bircsak
12 Lexington Drive
Acton, MA 01720